

# Why God?

July 3, 2022

## Matthew 5:5 ESV

5 **Blessed** are the **meek**, for they shall **inherit the earth**.

- **Meek** (praus)
- **King James Version** — “*Blessed are the meek...*”  
**Christian Standard Bible** — “*Blessed are the humble...*”  
**New American Standard** — “*Blessed are the gentle...*”
- *Meekness is giving yourself over entirely to the Father’s will.*
- *Meekness is the disposition and demeanor of the living sacrifice, one who is joyfully surrendered to the sovereign will of God, no matter what the cost.*
- **Romans 12:1-2** [1] “*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. [2] Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*”
- **Outline of Biblical Usage:** “*Meekness toward God is that disposition of spirit in which we accept His dealings with us as good, and therefore without disputing or resisting. In the OT, the meek are those wholly relying on God rather than their own strength to defend against injustice. Thus, meekness toward evil people means knowing God is permitting the injuries they inflict, that He is using them to purify His elect, and that He will deliver His elect in His time (Isa 41:17, Luk 18:1-8). Gentleness or meekness is the opposite to self-assertiveness and self-interest. It stems from trust in God’s goodness and control over the situation. The gentle person is not occupied with self at all. This is a work of the Holy Spirit, not of the human will (Gal 5:23).*”
- *Why do the meek inherit the earth? Because God can’t trust the earth to anyone else. He can only trust the earth to those who are wholly surrendered.*

## God’s Leaders and God’s People Often Question “Why?”

Psalm 22:1-2 ESV To the choirmaster: according to The Doe of the Dawn. A Psalm of David.

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

Psalm 13:1-2 ESV To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

1 How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

2 How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

Revelation 6:9-11 ESV

9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne.

10 They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

11 Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

Numbers 21:4-5 ESV

4 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way.

5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food."

- *Questioning "why" and complaining will blind you to the most obvious miracles in your daily life.*
- *Not one Israelite died from starvation or thirst. The ones who died, died from questioning and complaining.*

## When Questioning Goes Too Far

### When We Accuse God and His Motives

Exodus 16:2-3 ESV

2 And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness,

3 and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Exodus 16:8 ESV

8 And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him — what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD."

Numbers 14:21-23 ESV

21 But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD,  
22 none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice,  
23 shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it.

Numbers 14:32 ESV

32 But as for you, your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness.

### When We Know Better Than God

Job 23:1-6 ESV

1 Then Job answered and said:

2 Today also my complaint is bitter; my hand is heavy on account of my groaning.

- 3 Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his seat!  
4 I would lay my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments.  
5 I would know what he would answer me and understand what he would say to me.  
6 Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; he would pay attention to me.

Job 37:23-4 ESV [Elihu to Job]

- 23 The Almighty--we cannot find him; he is great in power; justice and abundant righteousness he will not violate.  
24 Therefore men fear him; he does not regard any who are wise in their own conceit.

Job 40:6-8 ESV

- 6 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:  
7 Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me.  
8 Will you even put me in the wrong? Will you condemn me that you may be in the right?

Job 38:4-11 ESV [*Job 38-41 — four chapters of God questioning Job!*]

- 4 Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.  
5 Who determined its measurements--surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?  
6 On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone,  
7 when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?  
8 Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb,  
9 when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band,  
10 and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors,  
11 and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed'?

## Biblical Examples of Meekness

**Job** — *God can heal your complaining heart.*

Job 42:1-6 ESV

- 1 Then Job answered the LORD and said:  
2 "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.  
3 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.  
4 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me.'  
5 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;  
6 therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

**Habakkuk** — *God can be trusted through the very worst of circumstances.*

Habakkuk 1:2-5 ESV

- 2 [Habakkuk] "O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save?  
3 Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

4 So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted."

5 [God] "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told."

*Ecclesiastes 3:11 ESV*

11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

*Ecclesiastes 8:17 ESV*

17 Then I saw all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out.

*Romans 8:28 ESV*

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

*Habakkuk 1:6-11 ESV*

6 For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, who march through the breadth of the earth, to seize dwellings not their own.

7 They are dreaded and fearsome; their justice and dignity go forth from themselves.

8 Their horses are swifter than leopards, more fierce than the evening wolves; their horsemen press proudly on. Their horsemen come from afar; they fly like an eagle swift to devour.

9 They all come for violence, all their faces forward. They gather captives like sand.

10 At kings they scoff, and at rulers they laugh. They laugh at every fortress, for they pile up earth and take it.

11 Then they sweep by like the wind and go on, guilty men, whose own might is their god!"

*Habakkuk 1:13 ESV*

13 You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong, why do you idly look at traitors and remain silent when the wicked swallows up the man more righteous than he?

*Habakkuk 2:2-3 ESV*

2 And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

3 For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end--it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

*Habakkuk 3:16-19 ESV*

16 I hear, and my body trembles; my lips quiver at the sound; rottenness enters into my bones; my legs tremble beneath me. Yet I will quietly wait for the day of trouble to come upon people who invade us.

17 Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls,

18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

19 GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places. To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments.

**Paul** — *You will experience God's grace and power in trials.*

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 ESV

7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.

8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Romans 8:36-39 ESV

36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Timothy 1:12 NASB20

12 For this reason I also suffer these things; but I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to protect what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

**Joseph** — *"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you." James 4:10*

- *Joseph was 17 years old when his brothers sold him into slavery (Genesis 37:2).*
- *Joseph was 30 years old when he was appointed second-in-command over Egypt (Gen 41:46).*
- *Betrayed by his own brothers — sold into slavery.*
- *Betrayed by Potiphar's wife — thrown into prison.*
- *Betrayed by the chief cupbearer — forgotten before Pharaoh.*
- *Two more years passed (in prison) after the cupbearer forgot Joseph (Genesis 40:23, 41:1).*

Genesis 45:4-8 ESV

4 So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt."

5 And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.

6 For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.

7 And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.

8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.